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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/966,537	09/26/2001	Souhail N. Abood	2001P17880US	4600

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Siemens Corporation
Attn: Elsa Keller, Legal Administrator
Intellectual Property Department
186 Wood Avenue South
Iselin, NJ 08830

EXAMINER

CHIANG, JACK

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2642

DATE MAILED: 01/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/966,537

Applicant(s)

ABOOD ET AL.

Examiner

Jack Chiang

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6-8 and 10-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6-8, 10-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-4, 6-8, 15-21, 25-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lenchik (US 6658272).

Regarding claim 1, Lenchik shows:

An input unit (106) adapted to receive information and including a first coupling portion (162);

An output unit (104) adapted to provide information and including a second coupling portion (147);

The output unit (104) is: (i) positionable with respect to the input unit (106), and (ii) rotatable about at least a first axis and a second axis.

Regarding claim 25, Lenchik shows:

An input unit (106) adapted to receive information and including a first coupling portion (162);

An output unit (104) adapted to provide information and including a second coupling portion (147);

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The input unit (106) is: (i) positionable with respect to the output unit (104), and (ii) rotatable about at least a first axis and a second axis.

Regarding claim 26, Lenchik shows:

An input unit (106) adapted to receive information;

A first coupling portion (162) adapted to work with a second coupling portion (147) associated with an output unit (104) such that the output unit (104) is: (i) positionable with respect to the input unit (106), and (ii) rotatable about at least a first axis and a second axis.

Regarding claim 27, Lenchik shows:

An output unit (104) adapted to provide information;

A first coupling portion (147) adapted to work with a second coupling portion (162) associated with an input unit (106) such that the output unit (104) is: (i) positionable with respect to the input unit (106), and (ii) rotatable about at least a first axis and a second axis.

Regarding claims 2-4, 6-8, 15-21, Lenchik shows:

The input unit (106) is rotatable about a third axis;

The first and second coupling portions (147, 162) comprise a single pivot or ball point;

The output unit (104) is closable with respect to the input unit (106);

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The output unit (104) is conductively coupled to the input unit (106) via at least one spring contact (fig. 20);

The device comprises at least one of: (i) a PDA, (ii) a wireless phone, (iii) a two-way page (col. 1, lines 10-14);

The input unit (106, 115) includes at least one of: (i) a keyboard;

The output unit (104) includes at least one of: (i) a display;

The input unit (106, 115) further provide at least some information (col. 3, lines 47-57, col. 4, lines 32-43);

The output unit (104) further receive at least some information (col. 4, lines 44-52);

The user can activate the input unit (106) to determine information associated with the location of the output unit (104) (figs. 4 and 7);

The user can activate the output unit (104) to determine information associated with the location of the input unit (106) (figs. 4 and 7).

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 24, 28, 11-14, 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lenchik in view of SanGiovanni (US 2002/0102946).

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Regarding claim 24, Lenchik shows:

A keypad unit (106) including a first power device (keypad) and a first coupling portion (162);

A display unit (104) including a second power device (display) and a second coupling portion (147);

The portions include joint (162, 147) such that the display unit (104): (i) positionable with respect to the keypad unit (106), and (ii) rotatable about at least a first axis, a second axis, and a third axis.

Lenchik differs from the claimed invention in that it does not show that the display is removable from the keypad, and a charging device.

However, SanGiovanni teaches providing a display (102) which is removable from the keypad (104) (fig.3), and a charging device for charging the battery in each of the display and the keypad (see paragraph 0021 in SanGiovanni).

Hence, if it is found that Lenchik's display and keypad are not removable from each other, then it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Lenchik with a removable display as taught by SanGiovanni, such that allowing a user to selectively carry only one of the devices in instances where only one is needed (see paragraph 0009 in SanGiovanni). Further, both Lenchik and SanGiovanni are battery powered devices, therefore, a charging device is usually required in such environment in order to charge the batteries as taught by SanGiovanni.

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Regarding claim 28, Lenchik shows:

An input unit (106) adapted to receive information;

An output unit (104) adapted to provide information ;

Coupling means (147, 162) for allowing the output unit (104) is: (i) positionable with respect to the input unit (106), and (ii) rotatable about at least a first axis and a second axis.

Lenchik differs from the claimed invention in that it does not show that coupling means is detachable.

However, SanGiovanni teaches providing a coupling means which is detachable (114).

Hence, if it is found that Lenchik's coupling means is not detachable, then it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Lenchik coupling means with a detachable coupling means as taught by SanGiovanni, such that allowing a user to selectively carry only one of the devices in instances where only one is needed (see paragraph 0009 in SanGiovanni).

Regarding claims 10, Lenchik shows the input and output units (106, 104).

Lenchik differs from the claimed invention in that it does not show that the input and the output units are removable from each other.

However, SanGiovanni teaches providing an output unit (102) which is removable from an input unit (104) (fig.3),

Hence, if it is found that Lenchik's output and input units are not removable from each other, then it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to modify

Lenchik with a removable output unit as taught by SanGiovanni, such that allowing a user to selectively carry only one of the devices in instances where only one is needed (see paragraph 0009 in SanGiovanni).

Regarding claims 11-14, 22, the combination of Lenchik and SanGiovanni shows:

A wireless communication between the input and output units (paragraph 0009 in SanGiovanni);

a conductive path and the wireless path (paragraph 0009 in SanGiovanni);

a plurality of contact points and a positionable and rotatable portions (fig. 20 in Lenchik; 114 in SanGiovanni);

the charging device (see paragraph 0021 in SanGiovanni).

5. Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lenchik in view of Schultz et al. (US 5644471).

Regarding claim 23, Lenchik shows the portable device (100).

Lenchik differs from the claimed invention in that it does not show a docking device which allows the portable device to exchange information with another computing device.

However, Schultz teaches providing a docking device which allows a portable device to exchange information with another computing device (fig. 5).

Hence, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Lenchik with a docking device as taught by Schultz, such that to allow the portable device to be

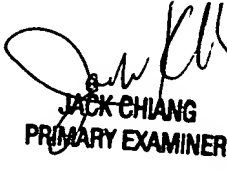
interchangeable connected to various computer terminals (col. 1, lines 63-67 in Schultz).

6. Previous election requirement (7/28/04) is withdrawn, however, if additional search burden is imposed in future communication, the examiner will reactivate the election requirement and will examine the elected group indicated in paper dated on 09/27/04.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jack Chiang whose telephone number is 703-305-4728. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. from 8:00 to 6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar, can be reached on 703-305-4731. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


JACK CHIANG
PRIMARY EXAMINER